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Contact: Christi Lightcap, (303) 239-4190, Christi.lightcap@state.co.us

Bovine Trichomoniasis Update

BROOMFIELD, Colo. – The Colorado Department of Agriculture reminds cattle owners to test their herd for Bovine Trichomoniasis.

- As of 8/5/2014, there are ten positive trich locations in Custer, Huerfano, Kit Carson, Las Animas, Park, Prowers, and Pueblo counties.
- So far this year, there have been 15 new trich cases.
- A map detailing trichomoniasis sample submissions by county and the prevalence for trichomoniasis-positive counties can be found at www.colorado.gov/ag/animals and click on “livestock health.” The “trichomoniasis” tab includes the map, brochure, and diagnostic laboratory contact information.

	Positive Trich Locations	Number of Colorado Counties
2013	7	6
2012	12	8
2011	13	8
2010	9	9
2009	16	9

“Testing and monitoring herds for trichomoniasis is the best method of controlling this infection,” said State Veterinarian, Dr. Keith Roehr. “Cattle owners should talk to their veterinarian to determine the best management practices for their herd.”

“Trich” is a costly, yet preventable, infection that can affect dairy and beef cattle. If bulls become infected, the percentage of open cows can increase from 5 to 30 percent.

Trich is a venereal disease of cattle caused by *Trichomonas foetus* (*T. Foetus*). The *T. foetus* infection causes fertility problems, such as early embryonic death or abortion of the calf, and is asymptomatic in bulls.

Colorado trich regulations require all non-virgin bulls changing ownership or being transported into Colorado be tested for *T. foetus* unless the animal is going to slaughter. Bulls on public land grazing permits or with grazing associations must also be tested prior to turn-out.

Several diagnostic laboratories across the state offer trich testing; samples must be taken by an accredited veterinarian and results will be available between four to six days. For testing locations, visit www.colorado.gov/ag/animals and click on "Livestock Health."